

# Big Bend

## Ranger Programs

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park  
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



### December 27, 2015 - January 2, 2016

#### Monday, December 28

**3:00 PM Discovery Hike – “Beautiful Boquillas”** Join Ranger J. Jurado for a hike into Boquillas Canyon to talk about geology, botany, wildlife, human history, and other surprises we might find along the way! Meet at the Boquillas Canyon Trailhead. Bring a hat, water, and hiking shoes. 1 mile round-trip. 1 hour.

#### Tuesday, December 29

**3:00 PM Guided Walk – “Our Most Precious Resource”** Water brings life to the desert. Join Ranger C. Rinas to learn more about this precious but limited resource. Meet at the Rio Grande Village Nature Trail, across from Campsite 18. Water and sun protection recommended. 3/4 mile walk. 1 hour.

#### Wednesday, December 30

**3:00 PM Guided Walk – “The Birth of the CCC”** There was a cry that came from our country in the 1930's; a cry of hunger, poverty, and lack of work. Franklin D. Roosevelt heard this cry and strove to do something about it, creating the Civilian Conservation Corp. Join Ranger K. Eckert to learn more about the creation of the CCC, and see their lasting handiwork here in Big Bend National Park. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. 1/3 mile walk. Wheelchair accessible. 45 minutes.

#### Thursday, December 31

**3:00 PM Guided Walk – “Life at the Windmill”** The desert may seem to be an impossible place to live but a significant number of living things thrive in this extreme environment. Join Ranger B. Smith for an hour of discovery and exploration into the secret, and not so secret, stories of life at the windmill. Meet at Dugout Wells, six miles south of Panther Junction Visitor Center. Bring water and a hat. ¼ mile. 1 hour.

**7:30 PM Evening Program – “Star-gazing with Binoculars and the Naked Eye”** You don't need a telescope to locate and enjoy many of the natural wonders in the night skies over Big Bend National Park. Join Volunteer R. Wonite for a laser-guided tour of the more prominent stars, star clusters and nebulae in the winter sky, weather permitting. Meet at the pullout at Mile 15.3 on the road to Rio Grande Village. Wheelchair accessible. Bring binoculars and/or a chair if you have them. 1 hour.

#### Friday, January 1

**3:00 PM Guided Walk – “The Way We Walk”** Many of us have enjoyed hiking on trails, but have you ever thought about how or why these trails were built? Join Ranger J. Woerner for a closer look at the work and thought behind trail building. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1 mile. 45 minutes.

#### Saturday, January 2

**7:30 PM Evening Program – “Band on the Run”** Who were the nomadic Plains Indians that were amazing equestrians, savvy traders, but also marauders and thieves? Join Ranger K. Eckert to learn more about the Comanche and their way of life, with storytelling that will engage the senses. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

#### Not able to attend a program? Consider these alternatives:

The 22-mile-long Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive offers access to eight different trails, several scenic vistas, many paved pullouts with exhibits that highlight park geology and cultural history, and culminates at the Castolon Historic District. Take a day and go explore!

Enjoy the breath-taking beauty of Big Bend National Park in comfort with our 22 minute Park Orientation film. Available daily on request at the Panther Junction Visitor Center.

Explore beyond the park and learn more about Big Bend history. The Terlingua Ghost Town offers several restaurants and stores, as well as a self-guiding tour of the old quicksilver mining district and historic cemetery.